

## Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-07 SP-03 SS-20 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-11 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01

EUR-25 NEA-14 /124 W

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R 200431Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4519

INFO AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PROP ID

SUBJ: CENSORIAL ANTICS

THE GOI'S CENSORS DISPLAYED UNUSUAL AND SOMEWHAT PUZZLING ZEAL IN EXCISING THREE ITEMS FROM SEP 9 PACIFIC EDITION OF "TIME" MAGAZINE. BLACKED-OUT ITEMS WERE TWO HAMMER AND SICKLE EMBLEMS (ONE IN PHOTOGRAPH OF PORTUGAL'S COMMUNIST LEADER, ANOTHER IN CARTOON ON ISRAELI-SOVIET NAVAL CONFRONTATION) AND ONE LETTER IN "FORUM" SECTION PROTESTING ALLEGED WHITE HOUSE CULT OF "GODLINESS." IN RECENT MEMORY, THE INDONESIAN CENSORS' GREASEPAINT HAS BEEN LARGELY RESERVED FOR CLEAVAGE OR FOR CRITICISM OF INDONESIA BOTH OF WHICH HAVE LONG BEEN CONSIDERED UNSUITABLE FOR LOCAL CIRCULATION. "TIME" EXCISIONS COULD CONCEIVABLY BE EXPLAINED BY GOI NERVOUSNESS OVER IDENTIFICATION OF PORTUGAL (WITH WHOM GOI WANTS TO NEGOTIATE ON TIMOR INDEPENDENCE QUESTION) AND ARABS (WHOM GOI SUPPORTS IN MIDEAST CONFLICT) WITH SOVIET COMMUNISM, AND "GODLINESS" ARTICLE MAY BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE UNFORTUNATE IMPLICATIONS IN INDONESIAN CONTEXT WHERE OFFICIAL RELIGIOSITY REACHES A PEAK DURING MOSLEM FASTING MONTH (WHICH JUST BEGAN), BUT SUCH EXPLANATIONS

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LACK SERIOUS PLAUSIBILITY. JAKARTA PRESS CORPS FINDS

WHOLE EPISODE RATHER RIDICULOUS. WE SUSPECT REAL EXPLANATION MAY BE A NEW AND INEXPERIENCED BRUSH OR OTHER TEMPORARY ABERRATION AT THE CENSOR SHOP, BUT WILL WATCH FUTURE ISSUES TO SEE IF CURRENT DAUBINGS CONCEIVABLY HERALD MORE LASTING CHANGE IN LEVEL OF GOI SENSITIVITY ABOUT CONTENTS OF FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS.  
NEWSOM

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CENSORSHIP, PROPAGANDA, PRESS COMMENTS, FOREIGN RELATIONS, DEPENDENCIES, COMMUNISTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 SEP 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974JAKART11675  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D740264-0155  
**From:** JAKARTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1974/newtext/t19740928/aaaaaxsu.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 JUL 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CENSORIAL ANTICS THE GOI'S CENSORS DISPLAYED UNUSUAL AND SOMEWHAT  
**TAGS:** PINS, PROP, ID, PO, UR, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005